



Kansas Health Policy Authority

Meeting of the Purchaser Advisory Council Minutes February 20, 2009

Our Mission: *The Purchaser Council will represent various health and health care purchaser interests. They are responsible to give significant input on health policy that impacts employers, health insurers, and other purchasers of health and health care services.*

Council Members Present:

Bill Bruning
Monica Cameron
Brad Clothier
Andy Corbin
Bob Finuf
Bonnie Hoopes
David Hornick
John Naramore
Ron Whiting
Keith Wisdom
Tim Witsman
By phone: Valerie Keller

KHPA Staff Participants:

Dr. Barbara Langner, KHPA Policy Director
Frances Breyne, Communications Director
Emily Nickel, Communications Assistant

Welcome:

KHPA Policy Director Dr. Barbara Langner welcomed the group to the meeting. Dr. Langner reviewed the agenda and handouts, including the list of new members for each of the 4 advisory councils. Members of the council who were present in person and via conference call introduced themselves.

Topics of Discussion:

Dr. Langner shared information about the KHPA Board's January and February meetings. She offered an overview of the Federal Stimulus package, including Medicaid FMAP as well as proposed funding for Health Information Technology. Referring to the one-page description of the Medicaid

Transformation project provided to council members, Dr. Langner offered an overview of Medicaid Transformation and discussed a portion of its contents, noting that the document could be viewed in its entirety on the KHPA website. Dr. Langner also discussed the Medical Home model, referring to its origins in the Kansas legislature and the KHPA's continuing efforts to work with Medical Home stakeholders to develop guidelines for its implementation.

Dr. Langner discussed the status of the Clean Indoor Air act in the legislature, referring to a one-page overview of the issue given to council members. She also discussed the background and scope of the 20 Legislative Coordinating Council studies, the table of contents of which was given to council members.

Regarding the Medical Home model, there was discussion about certification of medical homes in Kansas and whether Kansas would follow NCQA guidelines.

Some members of the group expressed concern about the prospect of reducing provider reimbursement rates in order to meet state budget reductions. Purchaser Council member Keith Wisdom made a motion that was unanimously agreed upon by the Purchaser Council. The Council agreed that to avoid widespread economic impact, a reduction of provider reimbursement rates would not be advisable. In support of the KHPA's letter to Senator McGinn dated February 18, 2009, the Council agreed that a reduction in provider rates "will have the deleterious and long-standing consequence of reducing access for Medicaid enrollees because providers will either cease to participate in the Medicaid program or will greatly reduce the number of Medicaid clients they see." The Purchaser Council supported urging the Senate Ways and Means subcommittee delaying any further budgetary cuts until the funding provided in the ARRA arrives.

One council member expressed an interest in seeing more focus on fundamental cost drivers, which are ineffective health care systems and more focus on driving change in the system to improve quality.

Purchaser Advisory Council Members:

William Bruning, Kansas City
President and CEO, Mid-America Coalition on Health Care

Monica Cameron, Manhattan
President, Diamond Solar Solutions

Bradley Clothier, Wichita
Senior Vice President and COO, Preferred Health Systems

Andrew Corbin, Topeka
President and CEO, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas

Bob Finuf, Kansas City
CEO, Children's Mercy Family Health Partners, Inc

Bonnie Hoopes, Olathe
Benefits Administrator, Henderson Engineers, Inc.

David Hornick, Leavenworth
Partner, Hornick and Associates

Valerie Keller, Olathe
Vice President of Provider Affairs, Coventry Health Care of Kansas, Inc.

David Knocke, Topeka
Senior Vice President and COO, Stormont-Vail HealthCare

Jeff Levin, Manhattan
Co-Owner, Varney's Bookstore

Larry Magill, Jr., Topeka
Executive Vice President, Kansas Association of Insurance Agents

John Naramore, Lawrence
President, Kansas Key Press

Linda Steinke, Topeka
State Director, UniCare Health Plan of Kansas

Ronald C. Whiting, Wichita
Executive Director, Wichita Business Coalition on Health Care

Keith Wisdom, Overland Park
Chief Financial Officer, United HealthCare, Heartland States Markets

Time Witsman, Wichita
President, Wichita Independent Business Association

Additional Participants:

- ☐ Dr. Marcia Nielsen, KHPA Executive Director
- ☐ Dr. Barb Langner, KHPA Policy Director
- ☐ Frances Breyne, KHPA Communications Director
- ☐ Emily Nickel, KHPA Communications Assistant